



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was mostly weak in the Northeast, steady to barely steady in the Midwest, and steady elsewhere. Retail demand was extremely slow to fair with some hopes for improvement due to first of the month. Food service was light to good with fast food outlets and holiday parties stimulating interest. Supplies were adequate to ample and slow to move. In the parts structure, wings were balanced to short with good movement. The remaining items were adequate to heavily supplied even with specials and discounts present. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range, but mostly desirable.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged at 58.50 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 65.75 cents last year on the 2ns of December, 1998.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
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BREASTS - B/S	137.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	73.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	69.50
LEG QUARTERS	20.50
WINGS	75.50

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

15 STATES	PERCENT CHANGE		
WEEK ENDING 11/27/99	1999	1998	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	180,427	180,153	0
CHICKS PLACED	137,804	136,717	+01

Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Up Slightly

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 180 million eggs during the week ending November 27, 1999. This was up slightly from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler Chicks Placed Up 1 Percent

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 138 million chicks for meat production during the week ending November 27, 1999. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week in 1998. Cumulative placements from January 3, 1999, through November 27, 1999, were 6.68 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 8-Jan-00 IS ESTIMATED AT 144.2 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 140.8 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 144.0 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 157.2 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 59.48 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was about steady. Offerings adequate to ample with heavier weights in the longest position. Buying activity was fair and centered on regular commitments. Demand was moderate overall. Trade sentiment was fully steady on wings and about steady on balance of parts.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was steady at best. Demand continued light with little trade activity. Supplies were at least sufficient for present needs. In the parts structure, availability was close balanced to well cleared for wings, adequate to fully adequate for the remaining items. Movement was slow to fair, best for wings. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights mostly desirable.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Whole broiler/fryer trade sentiment was steady to instances barely steady. Offerings of additional product were at least adequate for the limited buyer interest. Movement into retail channels was slow to fair at best with receivers somewhat hopeful of increased demand for the weekend. Food service demand was mixed, very light to good, best into fast food accounts in major shopping centers and catering. Floor stocks were adequate to ample with sizes desirable. In the parts complex, wing supplies were adequate to short of needs, boneless/skinless breasts fully adequate to ample and slow to clear even at discounted prices, remainder of parts supplies were adequate or available for the slow to moderate activity. In the St. Louis area, bone-in breasts featured at \$.79 and a major chain in Michigan featured split breasts at \$.99. Trade sentiment was fully steady on wings, cautiously steady on boneless/skinless breasts and generally steady on the remainder of items.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was generally quiet for midweek. Offerings were adequate to ample for the limited demand. Movement into retail and distributive outlets continued slow. The market tone was mostly weak. In the parts complex, offerings were more than sufficient for current needs and breast items were in the longest position.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was disappointingly slow. Seller offerings varied from fully adequate to readily available and difficult to clear. Live supplies were seasonally moderate; weights were mixed in a full range of light to heavy. Processing schedules were irregular, but moderate in total. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent lower at 59 to 71 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly weak. In the parts complex, most items were noted as at least adequate. Breast items were noted at highly competitive price levels in an attempt to clear accumulating stocks. *BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE	59-77
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	63.05
NO. OF BOXES	8,599
*6 of 8 plants reporting.	

NOVEMBER 30, 1999

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

DECEMBER 01, 1999

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD
	(000)	RANGE		AVG
BREAST - B/S	687	115.00-183.00	125-130	130.26
TENDERLOINS	107	125.00-170.00	130-135	147.80
BREAST - LINE RUN	95	67.00-74.00	68-69	67.59
FRONT HALVES	70	51.00-63.00	-	57.00
LEGS	87	23.00-34.00	24-25	23.89
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	339	15.00-19.00	15-16	16.29
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	940	17.50-22.00	19-21	19.84
WINGS (WHOLE)	162	69.00-73.00	69-70	70.49
WINGS (CUT)	519	83.00-92.00	83-85	85.52
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	88	62.00-70.00	-	64.21

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
TRADING FOR NOVEMBER 30, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
33.00-41.00	36.65

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD
	(000)	RANGE		AVG
BREAST - B/S	597	120.00-183.00	125-135	138.73
TENDERLOINS	102	125.00-170.00	135	148.43
BREAST - LINE RUN	95	67.00-74.00	67-69	67.59
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	47	23.00-34.00	23-25	24.64
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	419	15.00-19.00	16-17	16.71
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,020	17.50-22.00	19-20	19.89
WINGS (WHOLE)	103	68.50-73.00	70-71	70.84
WINGS (CUT)	507	80.00-92.00	83-86	85.68
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	89	61.00-72.00	-	65.44

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
TRADING FOR DECEMBER 01, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
36.50 - 40.50	38.36	36.79

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was very sluggish despite widespread discounting. Offerings of breast items were readily available and the balance was at least adequate. Retail and distributive movement was slow and only slight optimism was noted for the beginning of the month. The market tone was barely steady to weak for breast items and no better than steady for the remainder of parts.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

NOVEMBER 30, 1999

DECEMBER 01, 1999

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**	
BREAST - B/S	130-135	132.68	542,680
TENDERLOINS	130	133.35	97,250
BREAST - WITH RIBS	61-62	67.58	154,640
BREAST - LINE RUN	61	64.30	179,400
LEGS	26-27	29.92	194,880
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	18.28	378,249
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	31.68	121,630
THIGHS	19-20	28.48	93,400
B/S THIGHS	70-71	73.93	42,070
WINGS (WHOLE)	71-72	79.89	232,800
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.03	62,520
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	45-50	48.27	62,550
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	57.72	74,790

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**	
BREAST - B/S	130-135	139.29	241,840
TENDERLOINS	130	133.03	104,520
BREAST - WITH RIBS	60-61	67.45	330,040
BREAST - LINE RUN	60	62.42	19,280
LEGS	26-27	30.83	138,840
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	19.19	212,131
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	31.65	95,390
THIGHS	19-20	28.78	72,200
B/S THIGHS	70-71	73.12	48,120
WINGS (WHOLE)	71-72	80.88	234,720
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.00	47,320
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	45-50	50.07	53,520
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.90	70,320

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		AVG WTS	
	12/01	11/30	11/29	11/26	11/29	11/26	11/24	11/22
ALA	3,873	3,882	3,898	2,249	5.17	4.83	3,456	5.07
ARK	5,149	5,108	5,224	4,071	4.96	5.09	5,018	4.86
DELMARVA	2,203	2,098	2,473	2,208	5.10	5.10	2,324	5.18
KY-LA-TN	1,839	1,834	1,806	1,328	4.56	4.54	1,637	4.44
MISS	2,654	2,798	2,781	1,646	5.22	4.97	2,421	5.04
NC	2,655	2,630	2,542	1,716	5.98	5.61	2,474	5.84
TEXAS	2,087	2,248	2,096	1,972	4.92	4.45	1,870	4.85
TOTAL	20,460	20,598	20,287	15,190	5.14	4.97	19,200	5.04
MON-WED	61,550	(A)					59,112	(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 01-Dec 99 is estimated to be 30,610,000 up 6.24 percent from a week ago and up 4.1 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 28,812,000; last year 29,406,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	79-82
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	82-88
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	309
RABBITS-CUT UP	326

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	92-97
	DRY PACK	107
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91
	DRY PACK	98
DUCKS		149-166

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING DEC -04

	CURRENT WEEK 12/04/99 (1)	PREVIOUS WEEK 11/27/99
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	153,842 (2)	113,450
LT HENS	2,054	1,257
HVY HENS	1,533	870
CHECK TOTAL	157,429	115,577

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 04-Dec-99 is 143.6 million head compared to 154.0 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 155.7 million head or 12.1 million more than estimated available. For week of 11-Dec-99 the estimated available is 144.1 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY LBS	PROCESSED POULTRY LBS
AM 29-Nov-99	92,204	73,809
AM 1-Nov-99	161,851	82,865
CHG	-69,647	-9,056
PCT CHG	-43	-11

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	11/29/99	11/22/99	11/30/98	11/29/99	11/22/99	11/30/98
PACIFIC						
COAST	7,784	9,744	19,795	13,761	13,709	5,430
LOS ANGELES	225	420	1,705	4,578	4,434	769

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 11/30/99

	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HHEAVY FOWL lb.	.40	1.05	.77	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.60	.70	.66	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	3.50	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	.30	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	2.00	3.00	-
ROASTERS lb.	.60	.80	.72	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.50	1.10	.83	ROOSTERS ea.	-	2.75	-
GEESE lb.	.35	.40	.38	GEESE ea.	7.50	10.50	-
TURKEYS lb.	.15	.25	.17	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.60	1.10	.89	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.50	1.20	.88	RABBITS ea.	-	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.10	2.50	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	6.50	7.75	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	4.50	13.50	-
SILKIES ea.	-	3.50	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	1.00	-				

TOTAL COOPS 101

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 1999.

		RANGE
HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	60-64
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65-66

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending November 26, 1999

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs w/ Thighs	Necks,Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	54.36	116.48	67.95	19.41	4.85	50.96
High	55.33	126.19	77.66	24.27	5.82	50.96
Mostly	54.36	121.34	77.66	24.27	5.82	50.96

SAN JUAN

Low	52.42	101.92	63.10	21.84	4.85	48.54
High	55.33	121.34	82.51	29.12	8.74	48.54
Mostly	53.39	111.63	67.95	24.27	5.82	48.54

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	53.39	106.78	67.95	19.41	4.85	48.54
High	55.82	126.19	77.66	29.12	5.82	48.54
Mostly	54.36	121.34	72.80	19.41	5.82	48.54

BECERRA

Low	53.39	101.92	70.38	19.41	4.85	46.11
High	55.33	116.48	77.66	31.55	7.28	46.11
Mostly	54.36	106.78	72.80	21.84	5.82	46.11

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